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## INFORMATION REPORT

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Prisoner of War Camp for American Pilots at Chail-li

1. In May 1952 a North Korean prisoner of war camp housing approximately 50 captured American pilots was on the southwest side of Chail-li (approximately 125-37, 39-16) (YD-267497), a village of about 20 houses.
2. The POW camp was approximately 150 meters north of an oval-shaped reservoir and was approximately 30 meters southeast of an L-shaped, tile-roofed church building. There was a churchyard garden 30 meters long and 20 meters wide with three tall poplar trees at the east end of the garden. The church building, which was outside the POW camp compound, was used for Communist lectures to the POW's.
3. The POW camp compound, which measured 50 meters in length and 30 meters in width, included two wooden buildings with grey cement tile roofs and was inclosed by a barbed wire fence. The buildings were 5 meters apart and 9 meters long, 4 meters wide, and 2.5 meters high. Both buildings faced south, and each had four windows on the south side. There were two entrances to each of the buildings, one on the east side and one on the west side. The building interiors were divided into rooms. The camp compound had three gates: the main gate, on the south side of the compound; the rear gate, on the north side of the compound, which led to the church; and the side gate, on the east side of the compound.

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side of the compound, which led to the camp dining halls. Two houses with straw roofs 20 meters east of the compound were used as dining halls. Three female cooks and off-duty guards usually were in the dining halls.

4. The POW camp was on level ground, but the 20 houses in the village of Chail-li were close to the foot of a hill spotted with small pine trees. Hill 153, covered with bushes, was approximately 400 meters west of the POW camp. There were cultivated fields between this hill and the camp. The area between the camp and the northern bank of the reservoir was covered with rice paddies. The reservoir, which was used by the Chail-li Water Utilization Association, was 700 meters long, 250 meters wide, and had an embankment 80 meters in length on its east bank. The deepest part of the reservoir was the northern end which was 8 meters, but the average depth of water was 5 meters. The southern half of the reservoir was often completely dry, except during the rainy season.
5. A Chinese Communist army ambulance unit, numbering about 50 men, about half of whom were armed with pistols and rifles with the remainder unarmed, was in Sinhung-ri, a village of some 50 houses near the POW camp, at approximately 125-38, 39-16 (YD-272498). A Chinese Communist army unit of 500 men attached to the Chinese Communist 6 Army was on a hill at approximately 125-36, 39-15 (YD-250489), near Togil-tong, and at the foot of Hill 153 at approximately 125-36, 39-16 (YD-255497).<sup>1</sup>
6. The POW camp was guarded by 20 North Korean army non-commissioned officers who maintained three guard posts, one at each compound gate. The guards were armed with sub-machine guns and the commanding officer carried a pistol. During the daytime the guards on duty stayed at the guard posts and did not make rounds, and the guards who were not on duty at the guard posts spent their time with the prisoners, fishing, swimming, playing volley-ball, washing clothes, taking walks, or reading in the reading rooms. The guards were divided into two groups for night duty, each group having the guard duty every other night. The group on night duty stayed at the guard posts while one guard made the rounds in the compound area and another guard armed with a sub-machine gun checked the camp buildings. The off-duty guard group spent its time in the two houses used as dining rooms. The POW's were not allowed outside at night.
7. During the daytime the POW's were not closely watched and groups of three or four accompanied by one responsible POW were permitted to take walks to the reservoir or to any other point within 500 meters of the camp at anytime when the political lectures were not being held. The responsible POW was held accountable for the return of his group within the allotted time; punishment for the group's failure to comply was the loss of one, two, or three meals by the responsible POW.
8. Local Koreans were not allowed to come near the camp compound and were strictly prohibited from giving anything to the prisoners or talking to them. If the rule was violated, both the POW's and the Koreans were punished.
9. The POW's performed no work except cleaning the camp and washing their clothes, but they had to attend political lectures each day. The lectures were given in English by three North Korean army lieutenants twice a day, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. English-language newspapers, magazines, works of Lenin, and other propaganda booklets published in Russia, and political caricatures published in China, most of which were in Chinese, were distributed to the POW's. The POW's were often compelled to write essays on political problems.

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10. The POW's wore their own uniforms and shoes, and each man was supplied with two blankets made in China. The POW's diet consisted of 800 grams of rice per man each day, with some Korean dishes and occasionally some Chinese biscuits. Each POW was given ten North Korean cigarettes every day. Innoculations were given to the POW's every week, and one box of Chinese-made DDT was supplied to each POW once a month. The DDT boxes were made of cardboard and measured 3 x 5 x 3 centimeters.
11. The POW camp and the village of Chail-li were equipped with electric lights. The electric power line, which was American-made telephone wire, entered the camp compound on the south side and was connected to other power lines at Tongsogam-ni (approximately 125-39, 39-16) (YD-280489). Where possible, trees were utilized as electric poles; in the absence of trees, there were poles 10 centimeters in diameter. The electric power line was 2 meters above the ground, and the distance between electric poles was not regular. There were no transformers or other electric power equipment observed in or around the camp compound. The power line could easily be cut with a pair of wire cutters. The best point to cut the line would be somewhere near the embankment east of the reservoir at approximately 125-37, 39-15 (YD-269493), since few people pass this area.

POW Camp at Kirim-ni

12. On 3 July 1952, a North Korean POW camp housing approximately 1,000 ROK POW's and guarded by 80 men from the Guard Battalion of the North Korean Ministry of Internal Affairs, was in the former People's School Number 14 building at Kirim-ni, P'yongyang.<sup>2</sup> The two-story cement school building housing the POW camp was 1 kilometer from the southern foot of Moran-pong, P'yongyang.
13. From 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day the POW's aided in the reconstruction of various buildings in P'yongyang. There was a period for Communist political lectures each night from 8:40 p.m. to 9:40 p.m.

POW Camp at Kangdong and the North Korean 106 Army Unit

14. In late June 1952, a North Korean POW camp, housing more than 80 United Nations Caucasian POW's, believed to be Americans, and more than 150 ROK POW's, was in caves in the side of a hill on the outskirts of Kangdong (126-05; 39-09) (BU-4837). The POW's were suffering from malnutrition and lack of sunshine. The POW's were required to stay in the caves most of the time. The average diet of a POW each day was 600 grams of grain or cereal. The only other food was salt. The POW's had no mess gear and their food was served to them in their caps or their hands. Sanitation conditions were very poor and the clothes of the POW's were very dirty. Deaths occurred frequently in the camp due to malnutrition and typhus. The most seriously ill POW's were treated in an isolated hospital for epidemic victims, which was in a former private home approximately 2 kilometers from the camp. There was little medicine available at the hospital. The caves composing the camp were disinfected once or twice each month.
15. These POW's had been thoroughly interrogated concerning their political convictions. Those who were recognized as Communist converts were removed from the camp and assigned to the North Korean 106 Army Unit as "liberated corporals." The 106 Army Unit, which numbered 2,000 men, was attached to the North Korean Air Force and was engaged in building and repairing airfields.

POW Camp at Taesong-ni

16. In late May 1952, a North Korean POW camp, housing approximately 300 ROK

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POW's, was at Taesong-ni (125-57, 39-02) (YD-5524), 2 or 3 kilometers north of the Ipsok railroad station (125-56, 39-01) (YD-5422).

17. The POW's lived in 21 slate-roofed houses which were formerly the homes of workers at the Taesong coal mine. Approximately 400 meters west of the POW quarters there were four single-story cement buildings which contained the offices of the camp commander, the political indoctrination department, and the medical department. The buildings were on both sides of a road; two of them were L shaped and two were rectangular shaped. The camp entrance faced towards the south.
18. Two or three deaths occurred in the POW camp almost every day. Prevalent diseases were typhoid, typhus, and pleurisy. Many of the deaths were the result of poor medical facilities and the lack of medicine. When a death occurred, three copies of the certificate showing the cause of death were prepared, one copy was sent to the North Korean Army General Headquarters, one was sent to P'anmunjom, the third was retained at the camp headquarters.
19. The POW's have been engaged in various kinds of work including the transportation of rations and fuel. Some of the POW's have at various times been taken to P'yongyang to dig air raid shelters. The POW's received daily Communist indoctrination lectures. Each POW was required to make a five minute talk or perform an act criticizing the American or ROK governments. None of the POW's were known to have been converted to Communism. Some Ministry of Social Security men were planted among the POW's to report on their thoughts and complaints.
20. A guard company, numbering approximately 180 men from the guard unit of the North Korean Ministry of Internal Affairs, was assigned to the Taesong-ni POW camp. The company headquarters was on the road south of the POW camp in a village containing approximately 15 houses. There was a guard house approximately 300 meters north of the company headquarters. During the day-time guards were posted at 50 meter intervals; at night they were posted at 5 meter intervals.
21. Fourteen POW's and a North Korean guard were killed and 69 POW's were wounded as a result of a United Nations air attack near the Taesong-ni camp on 14 January 1952. Two members of a Hungarian investigation group and two newspapermen from the Central Labor Press (Chugung Nodong Sinmun) inspected the camp after the bombing. Many of the POW's formerly at the camp were placed under Chinese Communist supervision and moved from the camp on 30 January 1952.
22. The POW camp was commanded by Captain KIM Ch'ang-su (6855/2490/3178), aged 32, a native of North P'yongan Province; the chief of the medical section was Captain HO (6079) (fnu), aged 45, a native of South Hamgyong Province; and the chief pharmacist was Lieutenant SA Hung-sik (0670/5281/2784), aged 21, a native of South Hamgyong Province.

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1. [ ] It is not clear whether this unit was still there in May 1952.

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2. [ ] In June 1952 a POW camp with approximately 1,200 ROK POW's was reported in the former Kirim-ni Primary School building at approximately 125-45, 39-02 (YD-3824), P'yongyang, [ ]

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